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**SECRETARY, BOARD OF
OIL, GAS & MINING**

**Pinnacle Home Owner's Association
P.O.Box 270110
Fruitland, UT 84027**

February 19, 2014

Ruland J. Gill, Jr., Chairman
State of Utah
Board of Oil, Gas & Mining
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, UT. 84105

Dear Mr. Gill,

As President of the Pinnacles Home Owner's Association, I would like to go on record against Berry Petroleum Company, LLC, a Wholly Owned Subsidiary of Linn Energy, LLC.'s application for drilling in the Strawberry Pinnacle and Avintaquin Canyon. I believe a hearing is scheduled before the Board of Oil, Gas & Mining on February 26, 2014.

By way of background, the Strawberry Pinnacle's area canyon was created by millions of years of erosion and drainage from the Great Basin throughout a number of Western States. The result is a very impressive canyon with sheer cliffs of eroded sandstone ranging from 300 feet to well over 1,000 feet in some locations. The bottom of the canyon is roughly 1 ½ miles in some locations and as little as ½ mile in many other locations. The area itself sits on the cusp of civilization and primitive area.

The Strawberry Pinnacles Homeowner's Association is comprised of five (5) Phases and approximately 60 owners, with Phase 4 sitting on the east side of the Pinnacles and Phases 1, 2,

3 and 5 on the west side of the Pinnacles. In addition, Camelot Resort is located on the west side and is comprised of a lodge, 3 cabins, a large campground and the home of the owner, Barbara Knudson.

With the exception of a few full time residents, most of the area is utilized by recreational homes and facilities by Camelot and attracts numerous temporary campground vehicles. The area is mostly utilized during the Spring, Summer and Fall months for biking, hiking, ATV, four wheeling, hunting and fishing and in general provides an opportunity for many on the Wasatch Front and guests from all over the world to get close to nature.

All of the property north of the Pinnacle Homeowner's boundary lies in an area which was purchased almost 30 years ago by the Nature Conservancy and it is my understanding that the Nature Conservancy was deeded the administrative rights to the property providing that **this entire area along the river would not be allowed for overnight camping, parking or development.**

I understand that a Company has a right to attempt to mitigate environmental concerns, however it is my strong belief drilling in this private, secluded and pristine area of Utah cannot be mitigated. The following is a list of issues which we believe must be addressed in order for a permit to be issued:

- It is no small matter that the area above the Pinnacles is owned by the Nature Conservancy with the stipulation that no one can camp overnight and that the ground cannot be developed. What a travesty it would be to disallow fisherman, hunters and ATV access, but yet allow a drilling company to develop large patches of this pristine area.
- The Pinnacle Homeowner's Association and Camelot, Inc. jointly share a well for potable water for use in the campground and by the Homeowner's Association. In addition, for almost 30 years because of the narrow area adjacent to the Strawberry River the water lines were placed almost in the middle of the road. It is my understanding that because of the significant truck traffic, the roads would be widened to 60 feet. If this were to occur, vast amounts of rock cliffs and formations would need to be excavated and removed, perhaps in addition, the Strawberry Pinnacles themselves. Finally, the well in which our water is drawn at Hayes Spring, a drill site is proposed to be placed on top of the Springs. The water we obtain from this well is very limited and there is no other area in which we can obtain water. In addition, the waste water from the oil removal process could create contamination to our water source.
- A major concern involves the drilling and trucking equipment required in such a development of wells and the removal of the oil, thereafter. The dust pollution and noise pollution would be inconsistent with the primitive nature of the area. Because the canyons of Avintaquin and Strawberry are very narrow, the noise and dust which would be created would be intolerable because of the amplification which is created in such a narrow area. One only needs to travel to Lake Canyon to observe the careless

stewardship of the environment which oil production has produced. Vast amounts of dust, noise, and traffic congestion has taken its toll.

- The riparian area of Avintaquin/Strawberry River Canyon and Timber Canyon serves as both Summer and Winter range for deer, elk, recently transplanted rocky mountain big horn sheep, moose, and recently introduced turkey. In addition, the Strawberry River is one of Utah's few designated Blue Ribbon Streams in the State. The status of which may come into question with oil surface activities.
- In the Berry AC Project Summary Description they describe the area similar to the Lake Canyon Development and apparently seek to gain authorization based upon approval for the Lake Canyon Project. This is clearly not the case within the Timber Canyon/Strawberry and Avintaquin Canyons because all of these roads are utilized by thousands of recreational individuals to gain access not only to the areas under consideration for this project but also to many others located above the project boundaries. Areas such as Strawberry Peak, Slab Canyon are some examples that would be impacted.
- Our property values would be worthless because of the loss of tranquility and natural primitive landscaping.
- Finally, because of the heavy truck traffic associated with drilling and maintaining 640 wells, vehicle safety for thousands of outdoor enthusiasts and current property owners, are a huge concern.

Chairman Gill, many of the homeowners purchased their property recognizing that encroachment and development would be impossible because of the relationship the property enjoys with the Nature Conservatory and the primitive nature of the area. This application is like a slap in the face to all of those who have sought to find a primitive, peaceful environment. As I am sure you are aware, there is less and less available primitive land available to the public. The ability of people to enjoy camping, at the Camelot Resort and still travel through this area, represents a good balance between public interest and private land owners. It is my strong belief, that to grant this request would deflower one of the most beautiful and unusual parts of our State.

I appreciate your review of this matter and hope you will recognize that the impact of this application would not be in the best interest of the general public nor property owners in this area.

Should you need more information or would like to tour this area please call me anytime at 801-641-0822.

Sincerely,

Dan M Scartezina, President
Pinnacle Homeowners Association